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Mean of the following two observations:—

HAMBURG.

	Hamburg M.T.	R.A.	Decl. N.
	h m s	° ′ ″	° ′ ″
March 4	10 21 41	180 55 52·9	7 28 46·2

BONN.

		R.A.	Decl. N.
		° ′ ″	° ′ ″
March 4	Meridian	180 54 29·0	7 29 48·0

DURHAM.

	Green. M.T.	R.A.	Decl. N.
	h m s	° ′ ″	° ′ ″
March 11	13 7 33	179 40 24·6	8 35 10·7

Professor Chevallier has sent to the Society, for distribution, several printed copies of an ephemeris of the planet calculated from the foregoing elements, and extending from March 15 to April 16.

A NEW COMET.

A new comet has been discovered, which became generally visible to the naked eye on the 29th of March. Mr. Carrington writes word that it was first seen by him, and unexpectedly, at about $7^h 38^m$ G.M.T., on the 29th, and makes the same remark that others have done respecting its general similarity to the one of August last. He obtained two pretty good comparisons with the star B.A.C. 348 before the comet set, and hastened to London on the morning of the 30th to circulate them, when he found that the comet had been already seen elsewhere. He too observed it on the 29th, 30th, 31st of March, and on the 1st and 2d of April; but the observations will not be fully reduced in time for the present *Notice*. From the following three positions, approximately made out for the purpose, he has computed the subjoined parabolic elements:—

1854.		R.A.	N.P.D.
	h m s	h m s	° ′ ″
March 29	8 0 13·7	1 6 22·48	70 12 13·0
30	8 7 22·7	22 0·40	22 12·0
31	7 32 3·4	1 36 56·33	70 44 8·6

T	1854, March 24^d·13742, Green. M.T.	
	° ′ ″	
π	211 43 27	M. Eq. 1854·0
☊	313 44 20	
I	81 39 6	
Log q	= 9·443310	Retrograde.

Notice of the Comet. By E. J. Lowe, Esq., at Highfield House Observatory, near Nottingham.

"I discovered a large and brilliant comet this evening (March 29th) at $7^h 50^m$, which was situated a few degrees above the N.W. by W. horizon. Clouds in the neighbourhood prevented me marking its position as accurately as I could have wished, and the want of an equatoreally-mounted telescope renders the position a very rough estimate. It appears to be situated on the border of *Pisces*, not far from η *Andromedæ*. The nucleus was equal to a star of the

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2d magnitude, and the tail (which extended in the direction of *Polaris*) was about 4° in length.

Elements of the comet from three observations at Mr. Bishop's Observatory, on March 29, 30, and 31. By J. R. Hind, Esq.

Per. Pass. 1854, March 24·33842, G.M.T.

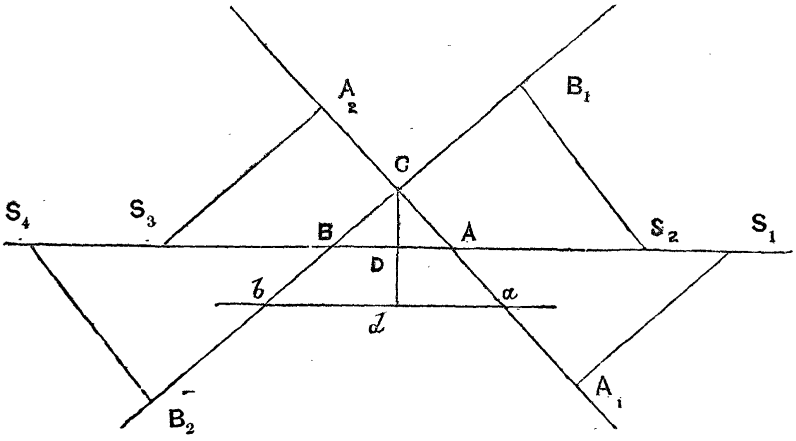
	° ′ ″	
π	207 34 8	T.E., March 30
☊	310 22 32	
i	79 27 14	
log *q*	9·445695	

Retrograde.

On a Method of Observing the Positions of Spots on the Sun; with an Example of its Application. By R. C. Carrington, Esq.

"The following method occurred to me in the month of October of last year, and has been made use of at Redhill on every subsequent occasion on which the sun has been visible. The advantages for which I would recommend it are, that it requires no previous accurate adjustment of a wire frame; that direct vision of the sun is unnecessary; that the contacts by which the position of the centre is determined are thrown to the beginning and end of the observation, so that an uninterrupted space of about three minutes is given for observing the contacts of the spots; and that the whole observation takes so little time that records may be procured on days of broken weather, when it would often be impossible otherwise to get an observation at all.

"In the focus of the equatoreal are placed two wires at right angles, turned *approximately only* into the position of 45° inclination to a parallel of declination, and the image of the sun's disk and the cross-wires is projected on a screen, placed at such a distance that the projection of the disk may measure from 12 to 14 inches. The most effective screen I have yet tried consists of a plate of ground glass, covered with whitewash, tinted a pale straw colour, with dark cloth or dead-black cartridge paper placed behind. The sun is, of course, seen to run along the screen from right to left, the true north limb being the upper limb on the screen



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